

REMARKS

After entry of the forgoing amendments, claims 39-49, 54, and 58-60 are pending. No claims are added. Claims 1-38, 50, 51-53, 55-57, 61-63, and 64 are cancelled. Claims 54 and 58 have been amended to correct the form, as detailed below. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added with these amendments.

Applicants thank the examiner for withdrawing the rejection of claims 39-49, 54, and 58-60 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Balraldi et al. in view of Baird et al. and Baraldi et al. in view of Baird et al. and further in view of Tam, the rejection of claims 54-63 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, and the rejection of claims 58, 59, and 59 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating claims 39-49, 54, and 58-60 are allowed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 51-53, 55-57, and 61-63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite with regard to m and n. The Examiner alleges that the metes and bounds of the claims are unascertainable. Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's reasoning. In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 51-53, 55-57, and 61-63 without prejudice and reserve the right to pursue the subject matter in subsequent applications. Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein render the rejection moot. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 51, 53, 55, 57, 61, and 63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baraldi et al. (1998 Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters 8: 3019-3024) in view of Baird et al. (1996 JACS 118: 6141-6146). Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's reasoning. In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 51, 53, 55, 57, 61, and 63 without prejudice and reserve the right to pursue the subject matter in subsequent applications. Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein render the rejection moot. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 52, 56, and 62 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baraldi et al. in view of Baird et al. and further in view of Tam (U.S. Patent No. 5,229,490).

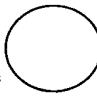
Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's reasoning. In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 52, 56, and 62 without prejudice and reserve the right to pursue the subject matter in subsequent applications. Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein render the rejection moot. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 51-53, 55-57, and 61-63 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The Examiner alleges that "the possibility that BOTH m and n may be zero" was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonable convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Office action at pages 10-11. Applicants do not acquiesce to the Examiner's reasoning. In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 51-53, 55-57, and 61-63 without prejudice and reserve the right to pursue the subject matter in subsequent applications. Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein render the rejection moot. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim Objections

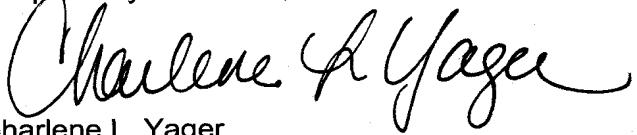
Claims 54-63 stand objected to because the Examiner alleges that "the symbol for the solid support should be a larger circle to avoid confusion with O, the chemical symbol for oxygen." Office action at page 12. As detailed above, Applicants have cancelled claims 55-57 and 61-63 without prejudice and reserve the right to pursue the subject matter in subsequent applications.

Applicants have amended claims 54 and 58 to replace "  " for "O." Applicants submit that the amendments presented herein render the rejection moot. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Should the examiner feel that any issues remain or wish to discuss anything further, the examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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